

Risk Assessment Worksheet					1. Project/Incident/Work Activity: Backpacking and Camping		2. Location: Eldorado National Forest				
3. Specific Objective: Risk mitigation while backpacking and camping on public lands					4. Name and Title of Preparer: Chris Sailor, Acting Amador Rec Officer		5. Date Prepared: Monday, July 15, 2024				
6. Risk Decision Authority: The risk decision authority block should be signed after the worksheet is completed. Use the Risk Decision Authority matrix to determine the authorization required to sign in block 6.					Title: DISTRICT RANGER		Date: May 11, 2026				
Signature:											
Identify Hazards		Assess Hazards			Risk Control Options		Residual Risk			Decision	Implement
7. Task	8. Hazard	9. Hazard Probability	10. Severity / Consequence	11. RAC	12. Identify hazard mitigations & abatement measures (press [alt + enter] to add a line)	13. Hazard Probability	14. Severity / Consequence	15. RAC	16. Task Necessary?	17. Hazard Control Assigned to:	
Drinking Water	Illness, dehydration	Possible	Critical	High	Drink treated water from a trusted source. If treated water is unavailable, use proper filtration techniques (filter, boil, chemical). Bring extra water to ensure adequate supply. Shared containers should have surfaces disinfected between uses.	Rare	Critical	Moderate	YES	Supervisor and employee	
Consumption of Food	Illness, Inadequate energy level	Unlikely	Critical	Moderate	Clean and disinfect eating and cooking utensils between uses. Avoid perishables. Bring adequate supplies of food. Food and cooking equipment/utensils should not be shared between field crew members.	Rare	Critical	Moderate	YES	Supervisor and employee	
Cook Stoves and Fires	Wildland Fire , Superficial Burns	Unlikely	Critical	Moderate	Proper operation of cook stoves. Preperadeness for flame to escape confinement. Possession of an appropriate permit, adherence to the permit's content.	Rare	Critical	Moderate	YES	Supervisor and employee	
Campsite Selection	Overhead Threats, Resource Damage, Social Crowding, Encounters with Bears, Disease Contamination	Possible	Catastrophic	Extremely High	Identifying hazard/danger trees and 'widowmakers'. Adherence to 'Leave No Trace' principles. Keeping a robust distance between campsites and a minimal amount of people per site. Seek seldom used and clean campsites to avoid 'domesticated' wildlife and practice social distancing. When overnight camping, each person should have their own tent, sleeping bag, and cooking equipment. Always dispose of human waste properly and use proper hand washing and disinfectant methods.	Rare	Catastrophic	Moderate	YES	Supervisor and employee	
Gear Management	Broken and Non-functioning Equipment	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Properly fit backpack, socks, and boots. Replace overused items such as batteries, worn shoulder straps, sleeping pad, etc. before leaving.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Individual	
Personal Health and Fitness	Injury and/or illness	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	If ill, or not fit to perform physical exertion stay home. Do not push your limits or the limits of others. Staying rested, hydrated, and nourished allows for sustained physical and mental output. Carry a First-Aid kit.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Individual	
Communications and First Aid	Emergencies	Possible	Critical	High	Use FS radio, text messaging, SPOT device, or satellite phone to contact in case of emergency. Carry a flashlight and a GPS device. Be medically trained to render FA and stay with the patient until help arrives. Have adequate Personal Protective Equipment. Use disinfectant.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Individual	
Contact with Forest Visitors	Disease Spread	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Consider wearing a face mask when in close quarters with people of unknown status. Step off the trail, keep recommended social distance when encountering people.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Supervisor and employee	
Travel between Locations	Injuries from tripping and falling	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Maintain safe walking distance. Test and use secure footing. Avoid kicking out loose rocks and other material. Know how to fall, do not stick out your arms to break the fall. Avoid walking on logs. Look for wet or gravelly spots and take shorter strides on them. Walk, never run down slopes.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Individual	
Environmental Exposure	Heat Stress, Hypothermia	Possible	Critical	High	Find shelter, removal from the environment condition causing the discomfort. Be informed as to potential weather conditions. Stay hydrated and nourished. Understand the Heat Stress and Wind Chill Indexes.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	Individual	

Incliment Weather	Lightning Strike	Unlikely	Critical	Moderate	Stay away from tall objects, water, and large open areas. Turn off all radios and elctronic equipment. If possible, seek shelter in a cave, tunnel, or canyon. Make yourself as small of a target as possible	Rare	Critical	Moderate	YES	Supervisor and employee
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